

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration of the application in view of the present amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 145-162 are amended. Accordingly, claims 1-137 are canceled, claims 138-144 are withdrawn, and claims 145-162 are pending.

The drawings are objected to for reasons stated in the Office Action. Enclosed are two (2) sets of Figure 11 with proposed amendments marked in red. Approval of the proposed changes to the drawings is respectfully requested. Also, enclosed are two (2) sets of replacement sheets of Figure 11 including the proposed amendments.

With respect to the specification, the sentence beginning on page 31, line 12 is amended by way of the present amendment to correspond with the proposed amendments to Figure 11.

Claims 145-160 and 162 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

With respect to claim 145, Applicant would like to point out that the cash cassette and the ATM are not positively claimed, and are inferentially claimed. Applicant would also like to point out that the locking mechanism may comprise any type of mechanism which, when properly locked onto the cash cassette, prevents contents of the cash cassette from being accessed while the delivery person is transporting the cash cassette to the ATM. As an example, the locking mechanism may comprise a latch having a structure and function as recited in claim 147 which depends from claim 145. Support for the latch claimed in claim 147 is found at least on page 31 of specification beginning on line 12. The locking mechanism may also comprise a plurality of engagement elements, such as slidable bolts, which are moveable between locked and unlocked positions. The plurality of engagement elements is recited in claim 148. The slidable bolts are claimed in claim 149. Claim 148 is amended to depend from claim 147. It is believed that all of the bases of the Section 112 rejection of claim 145 are overcome.

With respect to claims 151 and 159, each claim is amended to delete the word “and”, and to add claim language to better recite the subject matter intended to be claimed. Also, claim 150 is amended to depend from claim 149, and claim 158 is amended to depend from claim 157. It is believed that all of the bases of the Section 112 rejection of claims 151 and 159 are overcome.

With respect to claim 162, the preamble of claim 162 is amended to be consistent with the preamble of claim 161. It is believed that all of the basis for the Section 112 rejection of claim 162 is overcome.

Claims 145-148, 150-156, and 158-162 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cassidy et al. (“Cassidy”). Claims 149 and 157 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cassidy in view of Solari et al. (“Solari”).

Applicant would like to point out the rejection of each of claims 145-162 is improper for at least the reasons explained hereinbelow.

Claim 145 recites a transportable cash transit container security system for attaching to a cash cassette and for enabling a delivery person to transport the cash cassette to an automated teller machine (ATM), wherein the system comprises, inter alia,

“a control module for (i) controlling activation of the spoiling mechanism, (ii) sending a first signal to the ATM to indicate that the locking mechanism is properly locked onto the cash cassette and the spoiling mechanism is properly positioned for, when activated, spoiling the contents of the cash cassette, (iii) after the first signal has been sent to the ATM, receiving a second signal from the ATM indicating that the ATM has taken over responsibility for protecting the contents of the cash cassette, and (iv) controlling the locking mechanism to unlock from the cash cassette in response to receiving the second signal from the ATM, and thereby to allow the delivery person to remove the transportable cash transit container security system from the cash cassette after the cash cassette has been transported to the ATM.”

Cassidy does not disclose the above claimed feature. While Cassidy does disclose that the processor 74 controls an RF communications interface 90, which allows communication between the “intelligent” container 20 and a remote monitoring station (see column 4, lines 54-57 of the specification of Cassidy), Cassidy does not disclose that the processor 74 sends a signal to the depot station 12 to indicate that a locking mechanism is properly locked onto the container and a spoiling mechanism is properly positioned to, when activated, spoiling the contents of the container. Applicant also notes that the container 20 in Cassidy is monitored by an overall monitoring system 22 (see column 2, lines 46-49 of the specification of Cassidy), and not by the depot station 12. Since Cassidy does not disclose the processor 74 sending a first signal to an ATM, Cassidy cannot disclose the processor receiving a second signal from an ATM after the first signal has been sent to the ATM. Thus, Cassidy cannot disclose the processor 74 controlling a locking mechanism to unlock from the container 20 in response to receiving a second signal from an ATM.

If the Office continues to reject claim 145 of the present application by applying Cassidy, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically point out where Cassidy discloses that the processor 74 sends a first signal to the depot station 12 to indicate that a locking mechanism is properly locked onto the container 20 and a spoiling mechanism is properly positioned for, when activated, spoiling the contents of the container, and then receives a second signal from the depot station after the first signal has been sent to the depot station indicating that the depot station has taken over responsibility for protecting the contents of the container. Absent an adequate explanation, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 145 of the present application is improper and, therefore, should be withdrawn.

None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests a transportable cash transit container security system for attaching to a cash cassette and for enabling a delivery person to transport the cash cassette to an automated teller machine (ATM), wherein the system comprises a locking mechanism for, when properly locked onto the cash cassette, preventing contents of the cash cassette from being accessed during transportation of the cash cassette to the ATM by the delivery person, an activatable spoiling

mechanism for, when properly positioned and activated, spoiling the contents of the cash cassette, and a control module for (i) controlling activation of the spoiling mechanism, (ii) sending a first signal to the ATM to indicate that the locking mechanism is properly locked onto the cash cassette and the spoiling mechanism is properly positioned for, when activated, spoiling the contents of the cash cassette, (iii) after the first signal has been sent to the ATM, receiving a second signal from the ATM indicating that the ATM has taken over responsibility for protecting the contents of the cash cassette, and (iv) controlling the locking mechanism to unlock from the cash cassette in response to receiving the second signal from the ATM, and thereby to allow the delivery person to remove the transportable cash transit container security system from the cash cassette after the cash cassette has been transported to the ATM. Thus, claim 145 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 146 depends from claim 145 and is allowable for the reasons claim 145 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 146 further recites that the control module communicates with the ATM to validate identities and to exchange data concerning the value and/or denomination of money being transferred. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 146 in combination with the structure recited in claim 145. Thus, claim 146 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 147 depends from claim 145 and is allowable for the reasons claim 145 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 147 further recites that the locking mechanism comprises a latch which allows movement of the cash cassette from a first position to a second position such that movement of the cash cassette from the first position to the second position results in activation of the spoiling mechanism to spoil the contents of the cash cassette. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 147 in combination with the structure recited in claim 145. Thus, claim 147 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior

art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 148 depends from claim 147 and is allowable for the reasons claim 147 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 148 further recites that the locking mechanism comprises a plurality of engagement elements moveable between locked and unlocked positions. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 148 in combination with the structure recited in claim 147. Thus, claim 148 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 149 depends from claim 148 and is allowable for the reasons claim 148 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 149 further recites that the engagement elements comprise slidable bolts. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 149 in combination with the structure recited in claim 148. Thus, claim 149 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 150 depends from claim 149 and is allowable for the reasons claim 149 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 150 further recites an enclosure having an opening for accepting the cash cassette. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 150 in combination with the structure recited in claim 149. Thus, claim 150 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 151 depends from claim 150 and is allowable for the reasons claim 150 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 151 further recites that the engagement elements are sequentially actuatable upon input from the control module to sequentially lock onto parts as follows: (i) lock onto the control module; (ii) lock onto the control module and the cash cassette; (iii) lock onto the control module, the cash cassette, and

the enclosure. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 151 in combination with the structure recited in claim 150. Thus, claim 151 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 152 recites a transportable cash transit container security system for attaching to a cash cassette and for enabling a delivery person to transport the cash cassette. The system comprises a locking mechanism for, when properly locked onto the cash cassette, preventing contents of the cash cassette from being accessed during transportation of the cash cassette by the delivery person, an activatable spoiling mechanism for, when properly positioned and activated, spoiling the contents of the cash cassette, and a control module for (i) controlling activation of the spoiling mechanism, (ii) receiving a first signal allowing the locking mechanism to lock onto the cash cassette, and (iii) after the first signal has been received, sending a second signal to indicate that the locking mechanism is properly locked onto the cash cassette and the spoiling mechanism is properly positioned for, when activated, spoiling the contents of the cash cassette, and thereby to indicate that the contents of the cash cassette are being protected and that the cash cassette is ready to be transported by the delivery person.

None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests a transportable cash transit container security system for attaching to a cash cassette and for enabling a delivery person to transport the cash cassette, wherein the system comprises a locking mechanism for, when properly locked onto the cash cassette, preventing contents of the cash cassette from being accessed during transportation of the cash cassette by the delivery person, an activatable spoiling mechanism for, when properly positioned and activated, spoiling the contents of the cash cassette, and a control module for (i) controlling activation of the spoiling mechanism, (ii) receiving a first signal allowing the locking mechanism to lock onto the cash cassette, and (iii) after the first signal has been received, sending a second signal to indicate that the locking mechanism is properly locked onto the cash cassette and the spoiling mechanism is properly positioned for, when activated, spoiling the contents of the cash cassette, and thereby to indicate that the contents of the cash cassette

are being protected and that the cash cassette is ready to be transported by the delivery person. Thus, claim 152 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 153 depends from claim 152 and is allowable for the reasons claim 152 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 153 further recites that the control module measures at least one of walk time, distance traveled, and absolute time since last release of the cash cassette, and activates the spoiling mechanism if any of the measurements exceeds a preset threshold. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 153 in combination with the structure recited in claim 152. Thus, claim 153 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 154 depends from claim 152 and is allowable for the reasons claim 152 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 154 further recites that the control module communicates with an ATM to validate identities and to exchange data concerning the value and/or denomination of money being transferred. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 154 in combination with the structure recited in claim 152. Thus, claim 154 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 155 depends from claim 152 and is allowable for the reasons claim 152 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 155 further recites that the locking mechanism comprises a latch which allows movement of the cash cassette from a first position to a second position such that movement of the cash cassette from the first position to the second position results in activation of the spoiling mechanism to spoil the contents of the cash cassette. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 155 in combination with the structure recited in claim 152. Thus, claim 155 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior

art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 156 depends from claim 155 and is allowable for the reasons claim 155 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 156 further recites that the locking mechanism comprises a plurality of engagement elements moveable between locked and unlocked positions. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 156 in combination with the structure recited in claim 155. Thus, claim 156 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 157 depends from claim 156 and is allowable for the reasons claim 156 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 157 further recites that the engagement elements comprise slidable bolts. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 157 in combination with the structure recited in claim 156. Thus, claim 157 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 158 depends from claim 157 and is allowable for the reasons claim 157 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 158 further recites an enclosure having an opening for accepting the cash cassette. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 158 in combination with the structure recited in claim 157. Thus, claim 158 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 159 depends from claim 158 and is allowable for the reasons claim 158 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 159 further recites that the engagement elements are sequentially actuatable upon input from the control module to sequentially lock onto parts as follows: (i) lock onto the control module; (ii) lock onto the control module and the cash cassette; (iii) lock onto the control module, the cash cassette, and



the enclosure. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 159 in combination with the structure recited in claim 158. Thus, claim 159 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 160 depends from claim 145 and is allowable for the reasons claim 145 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 160 further recites that the control module measures at least one of walk time, distance traveled, and absolute time since last release of the cash cassette, and activates the spoiling mechanism if any of the measurements exceeds a preset threshold. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 160 in combination with the structure recited in claim 145. Thus, claim 160 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 161 recites a method of operating a transportable cash transit container security system to enable a delivery person to transport a cash cassette to an automated teller machine (ATM). The method comprises sending a first signal to the ATM to indicate that a locking mechanism is properly locked onto the cash cassette and an activatable spoiling mechanism is properly positioned for, when activated, spoiling the contents of the cash cassette, after the first signal has been sent to the ATM, receiving a second signal from the ATM indicating that the ATM has taken over responsibility for protecting the contents of the cash cassette, and in response to receiving the second signal from the ATM, controlling the locking mechanism to unlock from the cash cassette and thereby to allow the delivery person to remove the transportable cash transit container security system from the cash cassette after the cash cassette has been transported to the ATM.

None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests a method of operating a transportable cash transit container security system to enable a delivery person to transport a cash cassette to an automated teller machine (ATM), wherein the method comprises sending a first signal to the ATM to indicate that a locking mechanism is properly locked onto the cash cassette and an activatable spoiling mechanism is properly

positioned for, when activated, spoiling the contents of the cash cassette, after the first signal has been sent to the ATM, receiving a second signal from the ATM indicating that the ATM has taken over responsibility for protecting the contents of the cash cassette, and in response to receiving the second signal from the ATM, controlling the locking mechanism to unlock from the cash cassette and thereby to allow the delivery person to remove the transportable cash transit container security system from the cash cassette after the cash cassette has been transported to the ATM. Thus, claim 161 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly or in combination, and is therefore allowable.

Claim 162 depends from claim 161 and is allowable for the reasons claim 161 is allowable and for the specific limitations recited therein. Claim 162 further recites communicating with the ATM to validate identities and to exchange data concerning the value and/or denomination of money being transferred. None of the prior art including the prior art references of record discloses or suggests the structure recited in claim 162 in combination with the structure recited in claim 161. Thus, claim 162 patentably defines over the prior art including the prior art references of record, whether taken singularly on in combination, and is therefore allowable.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Chan

Reg. No. 33,663

Attorney for Applicant

NCR Corporation, Law Department, WHQ-3E  
1700 S. Patterson Blvd., Dayton, OH 45479-0001  
Tel. 937-445-4956/Fax 937-445-6794

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Annotated Marked-up Drawing  
09/582,796

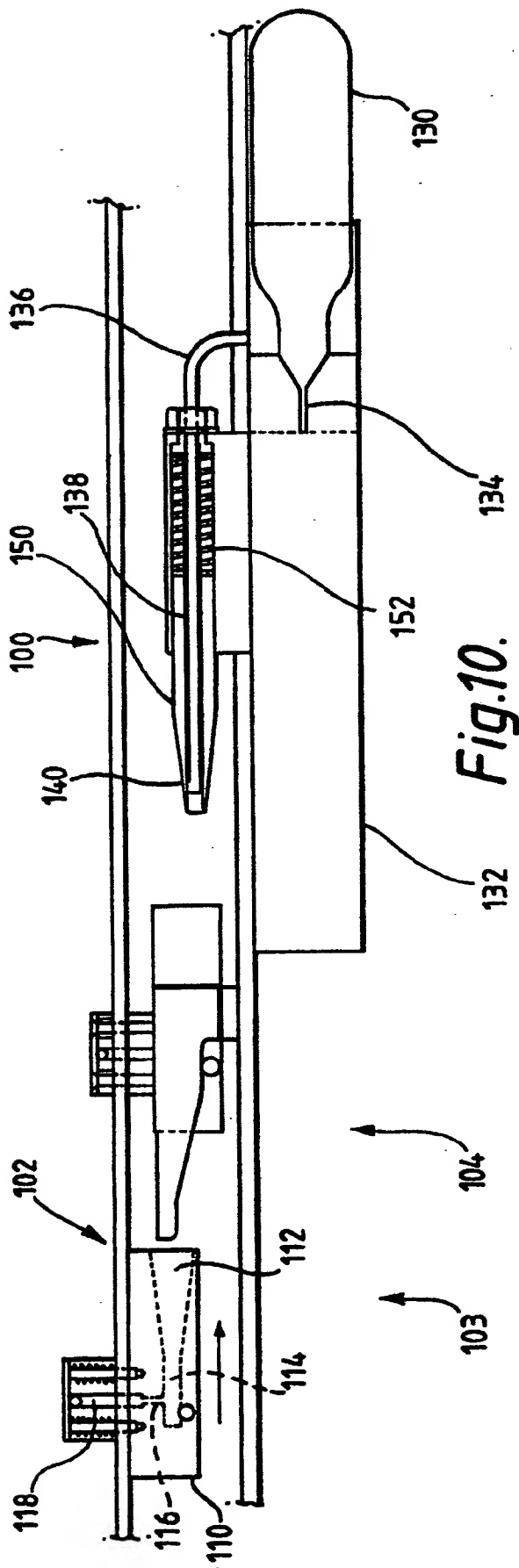


Fig. 10.

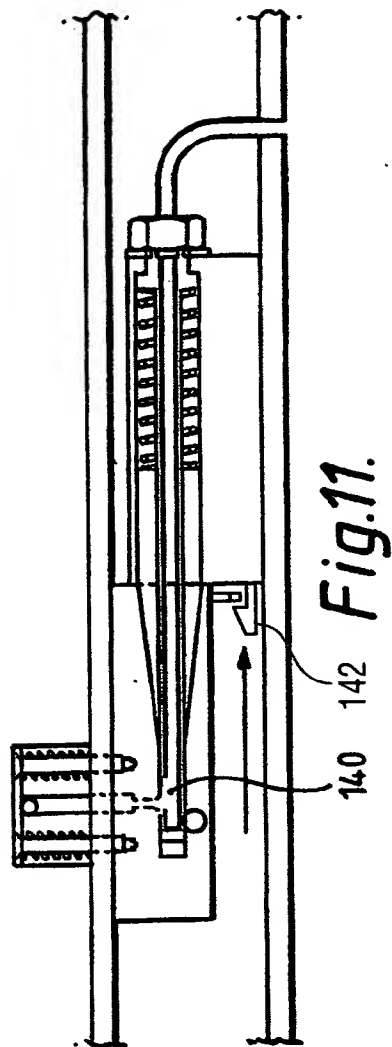
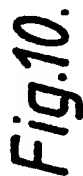


Fig. 11.



**IN THE DRAWINGS**

Enclosed are two (2) sets of Figure 11 with proposed amendments marked in red.

Also, enclosed are two (2) sets of replacement sheets of Figure 11 including the proposed amendments.